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Parade Coming Soon photo by Joe Vaughan

To: Clubs, civic organizations, church groups, PTA's, businesses, and all citizens of Appomattox County.
What: PARADE
When: October 8, 1977 - kick-off for Railroad Festival.
As the opening event for the festival, the parade is an important part of the week end activities. In order to make the parade a success and enjoyable to all in the community, your entry is important. Please contact Carol Maxwell at 352-5175 after 6 p.m.

DO YOU KNOW THE NAME OF THIS WILDFLOWER?
You will if you take one of the many nature walks offered during the Staunton River Festival, September 3 and 4, led by local wildflower enthusiasts and professional botanists. The hikes will include a visit to an archaeological excavation at "Indian Jim's Cave." All hikes, and the bus tour of farms and homes which would be flooded or affected by the Randolph Hydroelectric Project, will begin and end at the boat landing in Brookneal.

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The Pastor Speaks

PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

What the latter part of this year 1977 holds in store for us is uncertain. The first half of this year has brought us unusually cold weather, then drought and hot weather. On the business side, prices continue to rise. We can only hope for a slowing in the inflation rate to help the rising prices.

The Bible indicates that conditions such as we are experiencing would happen in our world. "This know also that in the last days, perilous times shall come, for men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy." II Tim. 3:1,2. These verses do not name specific world problems, but the life style described certainly fits our time. Many people's life goal is to look after number 1 - self only. They are proud, boastful and rarely satisfied, continually seeking more. Concern for family, friends or others are low on their priority list. Self gratification is far more important than the needs of others.

God's World tells us to take heed to these signs. To this part of the world condition comes a message from almighty God. "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." Luke 21:48. One of the definite teachings of the Bible is that Jesus Christ will return to take His children to be with Him. "And then shall they see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory." Luke 21:27. The second coming of Jesus in the air is only for the Christian, for born again believers. If you have never received Christ as your Savior and been born again, invite Jesus to come into your heart and life. He is the source of our strength to face the difficult times we live in today. After the second coming of Christ to receive His own, the unbelievers will go through seven years of trouble called the tribulation. After God's judging of the world, there will be a 1000 years reign of peace.

We live in perilous and troublesome times. The bright hope for the future is in Jesus and His return to take His children home with Him. God's plan for the Christian is marvelous, not just here on earth, but more so in the eternity He has planned for us. Be ready, be prepared and WATCH for Christ's return.

Rev. Paul A. Balthaser,
Hollywood & Central Baptist Churches.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS
International Uniform Sunday School Lessons
BY LAWRENCE W. ALTHOUSE

GIVE US A KING!

Lesson for August 28, 1977

Background Scripture: Judges 21:25; I Samuel 7 through 10
Devotional Reading: Psalms 110

Rev. Althouse

In commenting upon the sources of authority in church life, United Methodist Bishop James M. Ault once observed that "Every church has a Bishop, regardless of what you call him." Actually, I think the same is true of governments and monarchy: every governmental system has a king of some sorts, although his or her title may vary greatly. Thus, the problem and concerns that Israel encountered as the twelve tribes became a monarchy are not as remote as they may first seem. They were concerned with the issues of morality and the exercise of governmental authority...and so are we!

Perverting justice

The picture we get in I Samuel 8 is one with which we may well identify. Joel and Abijah, the sons of the great Prophet Samuel, had assumed their father's role as "judge" in Israel. Technically, the "judge" was not a monarch, for his power was much more limited, yet the "judge" was still the one focus of governmental authority and influence among the confederation of the twelve tribes. Whatever power there was in the Promised Land was vested in the two judges, Joel and Abijah. Although they were not called "kings," they certainly had some governing power.

Unfortunately and unlike their father, they wielded that power corruptly and unjustly. Although they were sons of the great Samuel, yet they "did not walk in his ways, but turned aside after gain; they took bribes and perverted justice" (I Samuel 8:3).

So, dissatisfied with Samuel's corrupt sons and fearful of the growing nations around them, the elders of Israel came to Samuel and demanded a monarchy: "Give us a king!"

A solemn warning

The writer of 1 Samuel makes it clear that neither Samuel nor God were pleased with this demand. However, God agrees to a king providing that the people are warned about what they are asking for. The reason behind this reluctance may well be, not that a monarchy is inherently bad, but that our expectations are unrealistic. In other words, if the elders of Israel thought that a king was going to solve all of their problems, they were wrong.

This is no less a problem for us today for we too have a tendency to believe that if we can have the "right man" as our President, our nation's ills will be cured. Yet, important as it is to have the "right man" as President—a man who does not seek personal gain and does not pervert justice—it matters little unless we the people are willing to give to our citizenship the same qualities we seek and expect in our leaders.

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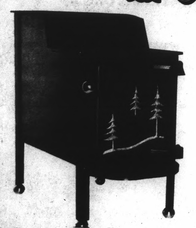

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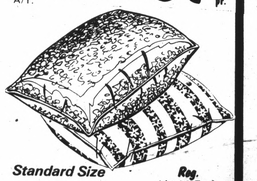

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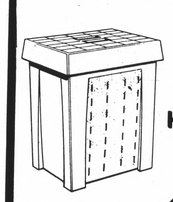

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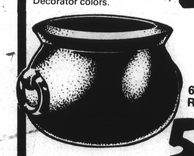

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Letter To Parents

Dear Parents,

Beginning another school session is an exciting experience. Students look forward to meeting their teachers, renewing friendships and assuming a more routine schedule for the next nine months. School personnel look forward to this time because of the joy that comes from working with youth, the satisfaction of helping students and the challenge of teaching. It is a time of learning, growing and developing.

Each summer is a busy time for the school board office staff, principals, maintenance and transportation personnel. The preparation and planning accomplished prior to the opening of school contribute to the success of the operation during the regular school year.

The School Board continues to give direction for the improvement of programs and facilities for the school system. Improvements to buildings and grounds, provision of services and programs, and employment of qualified teachers are areas which require many man hours. Many accomplishments have been made in these areas this summer.

Because of retirements, promotions and three additional teaching positions, there will be 37 new teachers in the school system this fall. Many of these persons have outstanding records as teachers in other school divisions. Those who have not taught have exceptional college records, including a successful student teaching experience. In addition to the professional records, these persons have demonstrated sincere interest in young people. The school system is fortunate to have attracted and employed this outstanding group of persons who will bring exceptional talent, interest and enthusiasm to the schools and the community.

Opportunities for young persons continue to improve in this school system. Many new programs have been added during the past four or five years and efforts have been made to improve the quality of all programs. With the initiation of a program this fall for students with learning disabilities, the School Board will have a comprehensive special education program to meet the needs of handicapped students. The success of our graduating seniors in securing jobs and/or in further education is evidence of the quality of the academic and vocational programs available to students.

With the assistance of the community, the School Board has expanded opportunities for high school students to participate in a variety of sports. Participation in these activities is excellent by both boys and girls.

Too frequently the adult population is inclined to criticize young persons for some of the problems which seem difficult to solve in today's society. We must recognize that whatever these problems are among our youth, they may be caused to some degree by our example or by our failure to provide an environment which contributes to the development of the highest values and principles man is willing to accept.

Fortunately, Appomattox County has an outstanding group of young people. Their records of accomplishments and their behavior and conduct within and without of school attest to this observation.

Our students have the reputation of being friendly, courteous and law-abiding. This is also the reputation of the community.

The schools receive all the students of all the parents of the county who desire to have their children attend the public schools. A school system, in order to function effectively, has to operate by a set of rules and regulations established by federal and state laws and by the local School Board. These are enforced because they are in the best interest of all students. It is our responsibility to help students understand these regulations and to develop self-discipline. Unfortunately, a small number of students have difficulty adjusting to reasonable rules and regulations. These students require more than their share of the teacher's time and infringe upon the opportunities of other students to learn.

Where these problems exist, the school principals will work with the parents in an attempt to correct the problem. Other agencies and the School Board will be involved when necessary. An invironment conducive to learning will be maintained in all of the county schools and school personnel will work closely with parents. We have had a good environment in our schools for learning in the past, but we believe that improvement is always possible.

A strong force in the success of the Appomattox County Schools is the assistance given by parents. In addition to serving on committees and giving volunteer service in many areas, parents keep informed of the school program. We encourage you to become actively involved in the PTA program of the school and to use every opportunity to learn about the school your son or daughter attends. Your ideas are helpful to us and your service of time and talent enables us to provide opportunities for students which otherwise would not be possible.

With your assistance, the Appomattox County School Board will continue to improve the educational opportunities for the youth of this county. During this school year we will call upon the citizens of the county to help from time to time in the development of short and long-range goals, in improving attendance, in improving the quality of the teaching the quality of the curriculum and in helping students to acquire and practice good habits of citizenship. With your assistance, the 1977-78 school session will be another good year for the youth of this county.

Sincerely,
Appomattox County School Board
Lloyd G. Walton,
Division Superintendent

Concord Garden Club Holds Meeting

The August meeting of the Concord Garden Club was held in the home of Mrs. Dewey Booth. Mrs. Charles Grof was co-hostess with Mrs. Booth and they served refreshments.

Mrs. Ryland E. Phelps was the guest speaker using as her subject "How to Make Arrangements Using Few Flowers." She got the members involved in a type of workshop, which proved to be most interesting and informative.

It was reported that Cabell Crowther, the youth sponsored by the club for Nature Camp at Natural Bridge, Va., had just returned after his two weeks stay there. He was the proud captor of an Eastern Ringneck snake that will be kept as a part of the camp's museum. This camp is run by The Garden Clubs of Virginia and it offers to boys and girls as a learning process as well as entertainment and fun.

Mrs. C. Fred Keesee, a member of The Sunshine and Flowers Garden Club of Rustburg, was a guest at this meeting & presented the plan for a memorial at Yellow Branch Elementary School. She offered an opportunity for the club to make a contribution to this project.

There were specimen and collections of horticulture to be judged. The results were:

Mrs. James Hancock, Jr. - 1 blue and 1 red
Mrs. Charles F. Jones - 2 blue
Mrs. James MacKenzie - 1 blue and 1 red
Mrs. J. W. Pratt - 3 blue, 5 red, 1 yellow.

The exhibits included:
"Summer's Bounty" - (an arrangement featuring fruit and/or vegetables) -
Mrs. James Hancock, Jr. - 1 red
Mrs. J. W. Pratt - 1 blue
"Summer Days"
Mrs. James Hancock, Jr.- 1 blue
Mrs. Charles F. Jones - 1 red
Mrs. Arne Olsen - 1 red
Mrs. J. W. Pratt - 1 blue

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MENU

Mon. Aug. 29 - Foot Long Hot Dogs w / Chili, Cole Slaw, Potato Chips, Apple Cobbler, Milk.

Tues. Aug 30 - Fishsquares - Hot Buns, Scalloped Potatoes w/Cheese-Garden Beans, Cantaloupe Slices, Milk.

Wed. Aug. 31 - Round Submarine Sandwich w/Ham, Cheese, Lettuce, Baby Lima Beans, Peach Pie, Milk.

Thurs. Sept 1 - Tuna Fish on Lettuce Leaf w/Crackers, Sliced Bread, Potato Chips, Succotash, Sliced Peaches, Milk.

Fri. Sept. 2 - Sloppy Joe on Bun, Cole Slaw, Mixed Vegetables w/Tomatoes, Banana Pudding, Juice, Milk.

SPECIAL MUSIC PROGRAM

A group of young people from Morgan's Baptist Church, Moneta, Va., will present a musical "Encounter" by Bill Gates and Ed Seabough on Sunday, August 28 at 7:30 p.m. at Reedy Spring Baptist Church.

"Encounter" is the story of a young man who gains a solid affirmation of commitment to God.

The pastor, Rev. R. T. Smith, and congregation invite you to come and be with us for this special program.

GIRL SCOUT UNIFORMS WANTED

Anyone wishing to sell a used Girl Scout uniform or buy one, please call Mrs. Willard Johnson, 352-5539 in Spout Spring for further information.

This uniform exchange is held each year to help prepare Girl Scouts for their various activities in the coming year.

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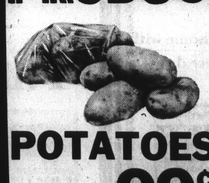

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